

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9-12, and 14-21 are presently pending in the application.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9-12, and 14-16 are allowed.

Claim 12 has been amended to delete a period at the end of component "a)" of the homogeneous mixture, and claim 17 has been amended to overcome formal rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, as discussed below. **Entry of these amendments after final rejection is appropriate, because the amendments raise no new issues, do not add new matter or additional claims, place the application in better form for appeal by overcoming rejections, and simply respond to formal matters raised for the first time in the present Office Action.**

The Examiner has rejected claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner contends that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed, because the Examiner was unable to locate any support for the portion of claim 17 which recites:

"...the island components in each of the cured resin layers having the sea-island microstructure do not exist in an upper portion of the each of the cured resin layers, the upper portion being located in an actinic radiation-irradiated surface of the each of the cured resin layers, and the island components exist in a portion from a bottom part of the each of the cured resin layers to an upward part along the thickness of the each of the cured resin layers."

This portion of claim 17 is indeed supported by the original disclosure, as this subject matter was disclosed at least in claim 4 and at page 6, second full paragraph, (paragraph [0024] of the published application) of the application as originally filed. Therefore, claims 17-21 comply with the written description requirement. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 25 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are therefore respectfully requested.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner contends that the above recited portion of claim 17 does not make clear whether the island components are present only in the bottom portion of each cured resin layer. Further, the Examiner contends that the above recited portion of claim 17 does not recite grammatically correct English and must be amended to correct all grammatical errors.

In response to the Examiner's question in paragraph 3 on page 3 of the Office Action, "Are the island components present only in the bottom portion of each cured resin layer?," the island components exist throughout each cured resin layer, except for the upper portion c in Fig. 1(ii), which is the actinic radiation-irradiated surface (paragraph [0071] of the published application).

With regard to the grammatical errors, claim 17 has been amended to eliminate the direct article "the," which precedes "each of the cured layers." Claim 17 has also been amended to recite that the island components do exist in a portion extending from a bottom part of each of the cured resin layers. This amendment is supported, for example, by Fig. 1(ii) and by paragraph [0080] in the published application.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added and entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and Remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims in the application fully comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly, reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

In the event that this amendment does not place the application in full condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss any further amendments which may be considered necessary.

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Respectfully submitted,
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